

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1-1 PURPOSE

a. **DESIGN.** This guide provides criteria to govern the design of Army Recreation Centers, and to aid in the evaluation of such designs. This guide is directed towards improving early design decisions and towards the development of realistic, cost-effective spaces in conjunction with the Army regulations and DOD criteria referenced herein.

b. **PLANNING.** This guide is also intended to provide general guidance for using service personnel and Corps of Engineers field offices in planning facilities for inclusion in military construction programs.

c. **IMPROVEMENT.** It is expected that using service personnel will find additional use for this guide in developing improvements or in better utilizing existing facilities.

1-2 SCOPE

a. **APPLICATION.** This document is applicable to all new construction projects for Army Recreation Centers. It is also applicable as general guidance to projects involving the modernization of existing facilities.

While this is the basic criteria document for Army Recreation Centers, it is not intended to provide all of the information required for successful preparation of project designs. Additional information must be obtained from the unique requirements at the installation level which are associated with the general description of activities contained herein and the locational constraints and opportunities of the site.

b. **CASE STUDIES.** Space allowances for Army Recreation Centers are defined in DOD 4270.1 -M, Construction Criteria Manual. For the purpose of this document, case studies are developed herein for three sizes of Recreation Centers (12,700 SF, 19,800 SF, and 27,800 SF).

1-3 REFERENCES

a. **FUNCTIONAL NEEDS.** The following Army Regulation is important in understanding the functions of an Army Recreation Center:

AR 28-1 – Army Recreation Services

b. **DOD CONSTRUCTION CRITERIA.** The following manual is important in understanding the basic criteria governing the planning and design of Department of Defense facilities:

DOD 4270.1 -M – Construction Criteria Manual

c. **PROJECT PLANNING.** The following regulations are important in understanding procedures for planning facilities in conjunction with the development of Military Construction, Army (MCA) Programs:

AR 415-15 – MCA Program Development

AR 415-17 – Empirical Cost Estimates for Military Construction

d. **DESIGN EXECUTION.** The following Army and Engineer Regulations are important in understanding execution procedures which must be considered in the design of facilities designated for inclusion in MCA programs:

AR 415-20 – Project Development and Design Approval

ER 1110-345-100 – Design Policy for Military Construction

ER 1110-345-700 – Design Analysis

ER 1110-345-710 – Drawings

ER 1110-345-720 – Specifications

e. **COMPLETION RECORDS.** The following regulation is important in understanding the kind of records transferred to the using service upon completion of a project:

AR 415-10 – General Provisions for Military Construction

1-4 FORMAT

The format of this guide is intended to facilitate the development of project require-

ments and designs by allowing the user of the guide to apply these criteria to each unique, local situation.

Major principles and criteria are contained in five chapters: planning considerations; design considerations; individual space criteria; spatial organization principles; and illustrative designs of case studies.

a. **PLANNING AND DESIGN CONSIDERATIONS.** These chapters will familiarize design personnel with Recreation Centers and design objectives; they will guide programming personnel in delineating functional requirements; they will acquaint the evaluation personnel and facility managers with the activities that take place in the Centers.

b. **INDIVIDUAL SPACE CRITERIA AND SPATIAL ORGANIZATION.** These two chapters will be the principal reference for design personnel, presenting them with detailed design considerations; the programming personnel will find detailed information to tailor a building program to an installation's local, individual needs; evaluation personnel will find the standards by which a project design can be evaluated.

c. **CASE STUDIES.** This chapter will help the design personnel establish design concept plans; to the programming personnel it will demonstrate possible design alternatives; it will help acquaint the evaluation personnel with Recreation Centers; it will demonstrate to facility managers how they might rearrange their own Centers more effectively. The case studies are *not* intended to be definitive designs since local variables will usually be too great to make this practicable. They do, however, represent possible applications of the criteria contained herein in the form of example programs and designs for different facility sizes involving hypothetical local situations.

1-5 EMPHASIS

a. **DESIGN QUALITY.** Emphasis shall be placed on the quality of architectural design since it vitally affects the longevity, economics, usefulness, efficiency, and attractiveness of a Recreation Center and its interior and exterior spaces.

b. **DESIGN SERVICES.** Architects for these facilities shall be selected on the basis of:

- A continuing experience in designing recreational facilities with similar functions and requirements.
- A demonstrated imaginative approach to building design that integrates design quality, functional efficiency, and cost control.
- Experience with modern, flexible construction systems.
- Efficient and well-managed project procedures and coordination with consultants,
- The ability to provide professional interior design services.

c. **USER INFORMATION.** Provisions related to the efficient operation and maintenance of the facility shall also be emphasized during design. Information to supplement project completion records should be prepared to instruct the using service on how to gain the most benefit from such provisions.

1-6 RESPONSIBILITIES

a. **USING SERVICE.** The using service for military construction projects is defined in AR 415-10, and its responsibilities are outlined in AR 415-20. The using service is responsible for:

(1) Development of functional requirements in conjunction with the guidelines in this guide.

(2) Justification of functional requirements falling beyond the scope of the guidelines in this guide.

(3) Preparation and submission of the Project Development Brochure required by AR 415-20.

(4) Obtaining installation action to gain site approval if the project is not sited in accordance with the DA-approved master plan.

(5) Preparation and submission of DD Form 1391 and supporting data in accordance with AR 415-15.

(6) Approval of concept designs to certify compliance with functional requirements.

b. **DESIGN AGENCY.** The Corps of Engineers field office responsible for design will:

(1) Insure that the functional requirements of the using service are incorporated into the project design.

(2) Insure that the requirements of the using service fall within the scope of the guidelines in this guide.

(3) Insure that all deviations from this guide requested by the using service are adequately explained in project design analysis.

(4) Insure that the quality standards for overall design are emphasized as stated herein.

(5) Insure that the assemblage of user information is complete at the completion of the project, and provided, together with completion records required by AR 415-20, to the using service.